

CHOW--CHOW

Committee Work at the Capitol and Official Doing
in the Departments--Nominations Yesterday--
Land Grant to Railroads--
United States House.

The House Committee on Printing has agreed to fund that 10,000 maps of the United States be published for the use of Congress. These maps are to be prepared by the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

The House Committee on Private Land Claims yesterday authorized Chairman Pacheco to ask the Senate that the San Juan de Las Boquillas No. 1 claim be recommitted to that committee. Senator Mitchell was heard in advocacy of the Securement.

The House Committee on Military Affairs has received a favorable report to be made to the House

The President has the following nominations for the Senate Thursday: Commodore J. B. Craig, to be a rear-admiral; Commodore William T. Frank, to be a commodore; Lieutenant Alfred Hopwood, to be a captain; Lieutenant Charles R. Sigbee, to be a commander; Lieutenant Wm. F. Farnholt, to be a lieutenant-commander; John Downes, to be a lieutenant-commander.

[illegible]

The proposed removal of the incumbent would be a violation of the civil service principles. The committee deferred action.

The President and a small party, including Secretary Folger, Attorney-General Brewster, Senator and Mrs. Hale, went to Harper's Ferry yesterday morning on a pleasure trip, which included inspection of the Government property there, disposition of which, either by sale or lease, is now under consideration at the Treasury Department. The party occupied President Garret's private car. They returned last evening.

[illegible]

On Tuesday afternoon took no action on any bill, except to postpone for a week the contest of the Kentucky nomination of Samuel L. Jackson as president. Internal revenue for the Allegheny district, the third of the year, was just before the adjournment as a matter of course. Governor Mitchell, who had made arrangements to go to Washington to-night on a visit to Pennsylvania, was informed that his departure was delayed by an unexpected countermand of the governor of the State of Ohio. Mr. Mitchell, who had been invited by Lewis H. Buckner, nominated as the Democratic candidate for internal revenue for the Louisville district, had been invited to deliver an address against this nomination. Mr. Sherman made a speech in support of the nomination, and then returned to his office, and that the present nominee is to be retained for the place, and it then went over to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs he'd a

into Assistant Secretary of State, attended as a witness in the Chili-Peruvian investigation. Before he was sworn, however, Mr. Walker inquired of the chairman as to what points Mr. Hill was to be examined upon, and Mr. Blount, at whose instance the witness had been summoned, stated that he would prefer to impart that information at an executive session. The room was accordingly

announced that the examination of Mr. Hitt could not be proceeded with at once, inasmuch as testimony taken before the subcommittee in New York—in connection with which Mr. Hitt was to testify—was not yet in print. The committee will hold a secret session at 10 o'clock today for the purpose of determining what action, if any, they will take in connection with Mr. Shippen's letter. They have arranged to examine

Mr. Shipstead intimates that he has some little to say for matter for the public, but will not give it to the press until after he has heard from the committee in connection with the bill.

THERE WAS MUCH SPECULATION to-night as to the action which the House Committee on Foreign Affairs will take to-day with regard to Mr. Shipstead's letter and his refusal to accede to the demands made by the committee on the subject of the release of the prisoners. It is said they decide to insist upon their demand, and will simply report the facts to the House and let the country take the action as it may think best. Whether such an action will satisfy the House, with the view of Mr. Kilbourn's conduct, is a question which would take the responsibility of ordering the arrest of the recalcitrant witness in a question which is seriously answered. It is maintained by some that the House will not take any action.

DAVID KILBOURN WAS DEPARTED.

IT IS THOUGHT TO BE POSSIBLE

judicially recognized. In the opinion of the Supreme Court in the case of *Kilbourne vs. Thomas*, et al., only two cases were distinctly specified as affording justification for the arrest and imprisonment of a recalcitrant witness. One was a refusal to testify in a contested election case and the other was a case of impeachment. The Court held that in both of these cases the House would be acting in the capacity of a court, and might properly exercise the POWER OF A COURT.

person can be punished for contumacy as a witness before either house unless his testimony required in a matter into which the House has jurisdiction to inquire, and we feel equally sure that neither of these bodies possesses that general power of making inquiry into the private affairs of a citizen." In another part of the opinion Justice Miller said: "What was this committee constituted to do?"

Can it furnish a remedy?

ed by the report of the committee or by an act of Congress? If they cannot, what authority has the House to enter upon this investigation of the private affairs of individuals who held no office under the Government?" It is argued by some prominent Congressmen that these words, if "Peruvian Company" be substituted wherever "real estate pool" is used, are precisely applicable to the present case, and that the

to compel a disclosure of the secrets of the Cayman Company than they would to compel a disclosure of the secrets of the real estate pool, this view of the case is taken by the committee, must either allow Mr. Shepherd another hearing, or let him give such testimony as he chooses to, or else disallow him altogether. The prevalent impression seems to be that the former course will be pursued.